

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

5 This invention relates to an improved hydrogenation process for the preparation of etheramines. In the process, cyanoethylated alcohols, i.e., the reaction product of an alcohol with (meth)acrylonitrile, are contacted with hydrogen in the presence of a sponge cobalt catalyst. The improvement in the process resides in effecting the hydrogenation process utilizing a cyanoethylated alcohol feedstock contaminated with byproduct acrylonitrile and utilizing a solvent that solubilizes byproduct (meth)acrylonitrile present in
10 the feedstock. Specific classes of solvents employed are ethers and amides.